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Page Page Page

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# Rayburn Backs Defense Critics

## House Speaker Asserts U.S. Lags In Missile Race, Favors Greater Spending

By ROBERT W. RICHARDS

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 10—Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn (D-Tex) joined Democratic critics of President Eisenhower's defense program today, charging that the United States has not made "anywhere near the progress" it should have in the missile race with Russia.

Rayburn, a backer of Sen. Lyndon Johnson (D-Tex) for the Democratic presidential nomination, seconded Rep. Carl Vinson (D-Ga), chairman of the Armed Services Committee, in urging that a lot more money be spent to hold the fort against the Russian threat.

Vinson last night told the Veterans of Foreign Wars that the American people must make "drastic sacrifices" to overcome the Soviet lead President Eisenhower insists does not exist.

Rayburn told a news conference today that Rep. Vinson had spoken, from the heart to the VFW.

**LAGGING ALLEGED**

"If I've ever seen a man lay it on the line he did," the speaker said.

"He indicated — and I believe — that we haven't made nearly the progress we should in defense. I don't know why — whether our engineers and scientists were not turned loose — or what.

"But I do know this: It doesn't do any good to be second in anything. If you are second in an election you lose. If you are second in war you lose."

On the other side of Capitol Hill, Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo), also running for

his party's top spot on a defense platform, accused the GOP national committee of "distorting the history of the 1940s."

The Republican committee had pictured Symington, Air Force secretary during the Truman administration, as the architect of "the 10 years" in U. S. missile research.

**SYMINGTON REPLIES**

Symington was said to have adopted military matters as the "core of his foundation campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination" and the Fair Deal regime to have "spent more on peanuts (prior supports) than on missile development."

Symington's answer was "A distortion of history."

However, he also was under attack from Republicans for leaks to the press from the two Senate defense investigating subcommittees of top secret intelligence data on Soviet missile strength.

The Missouri Democrat had threatened to make public figures he said were given the committees in closed session by the Central Intelligence director, Allen W. Dulles, and which showed Russia with more long-range missiles on launchers than was estimated last year.